

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

XMB-02 FRB-03 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 /081 W

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R 071525Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5055

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EGEN EINV EG

SUBJECT: FIVE-YEAR PLAN: MINOR PROGRESS REPORTED

REF: CAIRO 8491

1. PRESS COVERS JULY 6 MEETING OF HIGHER PLANNING COMMITTEE, UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF PM SALEM, TO CONSIDER VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PROPOSED FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN, WHICH IS REPORTEDLY TO BE SUBMITTED TO CABINET IN "NEXT FEW DAYS"-- IN OUTLINE FORM.

2. PARTICULAR STRESS WAS PLACED ON RECENT DECISIONS BY PRESIDENT SADAT TO INCREASE, ON URGENT BASIS, PRODUCTION OF POULTRY, EGGS AND MILK, IN AN EFFORT TO ACHIEVE POLICY OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD PRODUCTION.

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TARGET IS TO DOUBLE PRODUCTION OF THESE COMMODITIES

IN SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME, E.G. BY END OF 1976
IN CASE OF POULTRY.

3. MININFO OTEIFY ANNOUNCED AT END OF COMMITTEE
SESSION THAT CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO "PRIORITIES
FOR EXTRA INVESTMENTS", TOTALLING LE 3 BILLION,
OVER AND ABOVE LE 8 BILLION THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY
BEEN SET AS PROPOSED INVESTMENT CEILING FOR PLAN.

4. COMMENT: HIGHER PLANNING COMMITTEE AND MINPLANNING ARE
GRAPPLING WITH SERIOUS AND
INTRACTABLE PROBLEM IN COMMENDABLE MANNER. GIVEN
DIFFICULTIES OF ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES WITH VIRTUALLY
NO IDEA OF AVAILABLE FINANCING, IT IS NOT SURPRISING
THAT PROGRESS HAS THUS FAR BEEN SLOW. TARGET DATE
FOR SUBMISSION OF PLAN OUTLINE TO ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE
(JULY 23) MAY NOW BE SHIFTING FOR POLITICAL RATHER
THAN ECONOMIC REASONS. PRESS IS SPECULATING THAT MEETING
PREVIOUSLY FIXED FOR ABOVE DATE MIGHT HAVE TO SLIP
IN ORDER TO PERMIT MORE CAREFUL PREPARATION
AND, OF PERHAPS GREATER SIGNIFICANCE, ATTENDANCE BY
MEMBERS OF PEOPLES ASSEMBLY WHO WILL BE ENGAGED
IN ELECTIONEERING.

5. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT GOE WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF ANY
ADDITIONAL TIME THAT BECOMES AVAILABLE. OUR CONTACTS
IN MINPLAN REPORT THAT MINISTER AL IMAM HAS HAD
"FAIR AMOUNT OF SUCCESS" IN HIS EFFORTS TO CONVINCE
OTHER MINISTERS TO REDUCE BOTH SIZE AND SCOPE OF
THEIR EARLIER DEMANDS. TO EXTENT HE IS SUCCESSFUL,
OVERALL PLAN SHOULD BE MORE RATIONAL DOCUMENT.
ELTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, FIVE YEAR PLAN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CAIRO09223
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760262-0507
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760785/aaaacwss.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CAIRO 8491
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIVE-YEAR PLAN: MINOR PROGRESS REPORTED
TAGS: EGEN, EINV, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006